

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

The following claim set replaces all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

1. (currently amended) A polyacetal resin composition which comprises

a polyacetal resin (A);

at least one member selected from the group consisting of a phenol component (B1) and an amino acid (B2), wherein the phenol component (B1) comprises at least one member selected from the group consisting of (i) a resin of which a main chain or a side chain has an aromatic ring having a hydroxyl group and (ii) a polyphenol selected from the group consisting of a polyhydric phenol, a trisphenol, a catechin compound, a teanine, a tannin and a lignin, and the amino acid (B2) comprises at least one member selected from the group consisting of an α -amino acid, a β -amino acid, a γ -amino acid and a δ -amino acid,

a phenol-series antioxidant,

a heat stabilizer selected from the group consisting of a basic nitrogen-containing compound, a metal salt of an organic carboxylic acid, and an alkali or alkaline earth metal compound; and

a processing stabilizer selected from the group consisting of a long-chain or higher fatty acid or a derivative thereof, a polyoxyalkylene glycol, and a silicone-series compound; wherein

the composition is substantially free from a phosphorus-containing flame retardant; and wherein

the proportion of the phenol component (B1) is 0.001 to 1 part by weight and the proportion of the amino acid (B2) is 0.001 to 10 parts by weight relative to 100 parts by weight of the polyacetal resin (A),

the proportions of the antioxidant, the heat stabilizer and processing stabilizer are 0.01 to 5 parts by weight, 0.001 to 10 parts by weight, and 0.01 to 10 parts by weight, respectively, relative to 100 parts by weight of the polyacetal resin (A).

2 - 3. (cancelled)

4. (previously amended) A composition according to claim 1, wherein the phenol component (B1) comprises at least one member selected from the group consisting of a novolak phenol-series resin, a phenol aralkyl-series resin, a polyvinyl phenol-series resin, a polyhydric phenol, a trisphenol, a catechin compound, a teanine, a tannin and a lignin.

5. (original) A composition according to claim 1, wherein the phenol component (B1) comprises at least one member selected from the group consisting of a novolak random phenol-series resin, a high-orthonovolak phenol-series resin, a vinylphenol homo- or copolymer, a catechin compound and a lignin.

6. (cancelled)

7. (currently amended) A composition according to claim 1, wherein the amino acid (B2) comprises at least one α -amino acid selected from the group consisting of a monoaminomonocarboxylic acid, a monoaminodicarboxylic acid, and a diaminomonocarboxylic diaminomonocarboxylic acid.

8. (original) A composition according to claim 1, wherein the proportion of the phenol component (B1) is 0.001 to 0.7 part by weight relative to 100 parts by weight of the polyacetal resin (A).

9. (original) A composition according to claim 1, the proportion of the amino acid (B2) is 0.01 to 5 parts by weight relative to 100 parts by weight of the polyacetal resin (A).

10. (previously amended) A composition according to claim 1, which further comprises at least one member selected from the group consisting of a weather (light)-resistant stabilizer and a coloring agent.

11. (original) A composition according to claim 10, wherein the weight ratio of at least one member selected from the group consisting of the phenol component (B1) and the amino acid (B2) relative to the antioxidant is 99/1 to 10/90.

12. (cancelled)

13. (original) A composition according to claim 10, wherein the weight ratio of at least one member selected from the group consisting of the phenol component (B1) and the amino acid (B2) relative to the heat stabilizer is 99/1 to 10/90.

14 - 18. (cancelled)

19. (original) A shaped article formed with a composition recited in claim 1.

20. (original) A shaped article according to claim 19, wherein (1) the emission of formaldehyde from the shaped article which is maintained in a closed space for 24 hours at a temperature of 80°C is not more than 2 µg per one cm² of the surface area of the article.

21. (original) A shaped article according to claim 19, which is at least one member selected from the group consisting of an automotive part, an electric or electronic device part, an architectural or pipeline part, a household utensil or cosmetic article part, a medical device part and a photographic device part.